Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 05639 031408Z ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4688

CONFIDENTIA L DAMASCUS 5639

FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, SY, US

SUBJ: FORMULATION OF AMBASSADOR'S SPECIFIC GOALS AND TASKS

REF: (A) STATE 202267 (B) STATE 205449

I CONCUR IN FORMULATION REFTEL B WITH FOLLOWING EXCEPTION: THE LAST ITEM IN SECTION IV SHOULD EITHER BE ELIMINATED OR BE MADE MORE SPECIFIC. ESSENCE OF THE SYRIAN DEPENDENCE UPON THE USSR IS THE SYRO-SOVIET ARMS RELATIONSHIP. GIVEN THE UNLIKELIHOOD THAT WE WILL COMPETE WITH THE SOVIETS IN THIS FIELD, THE ONLY PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS TASK, IN MY OPINION, WOULD BE FOR WASHINGTON TO ENCOURAGE THIRD COUNTRY ARMS SUPPLIERS TO BE MORE AGGRESSIVE IN THE SYRIAN MARKET. THE EMBASSY COULD PLAY SUPPORTING ROLE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Concepts: POLICIES, AMBASSADORS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION

Control Number: n/a

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Subject: FORMULATION OF AMBASSADOR\'S SPECIFIC GOALS AND TASKS

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